



**One Hundred First Legislature - Second Session - 2010**  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 977**

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**Chairperson:** Amanda McGill  
**Committee:** Urban Affairs  
**Date of Hearing:** February 2, 2010

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

The purpose of LB 977 is to provide legislation that requires certain new and renovated state buildings to improve their performance across the following metrics: energy savings and associated energy cost savings, water efficiency, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts.

LB 977 requires the following types of state buildings to receive certification at the Silver level through the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED):

- New state buildings greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size
- Renovations of state building greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size for which the cost of the renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building.

The LEED program provides building owners and operators a concise framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions. LEED is an industry standard for constructing buildings that offer benefits throughout the building lifecycle – including design and construction, operations and maintenance, and retrofits.

Third-party certification through the independent Green Building Certification Institute assures that LEED buildings are constructed as intended. GBCI includes a network of ISO-compliant international certifying bodies, ensuring the consistency, capacity and integrity of the LEED certification process. Implementing an integrated, systems-oriented approach to project design, development and operations demonstrates leadership, and can yield synergies that improve the overall performance of a building.

LEED building and construction requirements, including legislation, executive orders, resolutions, ordinances, policies, and incentives are found in 45 states, 201 localities, 34 state governments, and 14 federal agencies and departments.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Heath Mello**